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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/750,635	12/28/2000	Chien-Sheng Chou	XER 2 0396 D/A0773	6973

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EXAMINER

BLAIR, DOUGLAS B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2142

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/04/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/750,635

Applicant(s)

CHOU ET AL.

Examiner

Douglas B. Blair

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 October 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7,9-19 and 21-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7,9-19 and 21-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/6/2006.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/6/2006 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments, see Remarks, filed 10/6/2006, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-7, 9-19, and 21-23 under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of Barnes and Breen Jr. have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made under 35 USC 103 in view of Barnes and U.S. Patent Application Publication Number 2003/0036949 by Kaddeche et al.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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4. Claims 1-6, 11-12, 16, and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 5,970,475 to Barnes et al. in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication Number 2003/0036949 by Kaddeche et al.

5. As to claim 1, Barnes teaches a system for generating a requisition for user selectable inventory items comprising: user selectable inventory items comprising forms associated with particular groups (Figure 12 shows templates created for specific groups); a client computer system connected to a network (Figure 2); a server computer system connected to the network, the network interconnecting the client computer system and the server computer system, the client computer configured to allow a plurality of users to access the server computer system (col. 22, line 46-col. 23, line 35), the server computer system configured to: associate one or more of a plurality of work sites with each of said users, each worksite defining a group of users associated with a common group (col. 22, line 46-col. 23, line 35); associate inventory items with one or more of a plurality of work sites using a validation rules database associating each of said user selectable items with one or more of a plurality of work sites with which a user must be associated to verify the user requested inventory item for a requisition (col. 22, line 46-col. 23, line 35); identify associated inventory items which may be requisitioned by a user associated with the one or more associated work sites, and identify associated inventory items which may not be requisitioned by a user associated with the one or more associated work sites (col. 22, line 46-col. 23, line 35); receive and process a request for one or more user selected inventory items (col. 22, line 46-col. 23, line 35); verify that each user requested inventory item is an item associated with the user's one or more associated work sites; and generate a requisition for the verified user requested inventory items (col. 22, line 46-col. 23, line 35); however Barnes

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mentions (In Figure 19) but does not explicitly teach the how groups can be associated with a common geographical area.

6. Kaddeche teaches a system for generating a requisition with user selectable inventory items comprising printed materials associated with a particular geographic area and accessible to specific groups of users (paragraphs 31-34, the tax forms are provided to geographically specific groups of users).

7. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Computer Networking art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Barnes regarding a system for requisitioning with the teachings of Kaddeche regarding associating printed materials with particular geographical areas because Figure 19 of Barnes suggests that groups can be based on geographic locations and Figure 24 of Barnes shows that tax information can be administrated geographically.

8. As to claim 2, Barnes teaches a client computer system comprising a web browser for accessing the network and communicating with the server over the network (col. 22, line 46-col. 23, line 35).

9. As to claim 3, Barnes teaches a server system comprising a requester database containing one or more of a user identifier, a password, and personal information for the plurality of users (col. 22, line 46-col. 23, line 35).

10. As to claims 4 and 15, Barnes teaches a requester database containing at least one shared user entry, the shared entry associated with a single location (col. 22, line 46-col. 23, line 35).

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11. As to claim 5, Barnes teaches a server system comprising a location database associating at least one of a plurality of locations with each of the plurality of users (col. 22, line 46-col. 23, line 35).

12. As to claim 6, Barnes teaches a server computer comprising an inventory database containing information about the user selectable items (col. 22, line 46-col. 23, line 35).

13. As to claims 11 and 23, they feature the same limitations as claim 1 and are rejected for the same reasons as claim 1.

14. As to claim 12, it is rejected for the same reasons as claim 2.

15. As to claim 13, Barnes teaches a method wherein the client computer system and the server computer system communicate via the Internet (col. 22, line 46-col. 23, line 35).

16. As to claim 16, Barnes teaches a managerial account generating a requisition for a user (col. 25, lines 26-40).

17. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 5,970,475 to Barnes et al. in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication Number 2003/0036949 by Kaddeche et al in further view of U.S. Patent Number 6,415,320 to Hess et al..

18. As to claim 7, the Barnes-Kaddeche combination teaches the system of claim 8, however the Barnes-Kaddeche combination does not teach information comprising an item description and an image.

19. Hess teaches describing a sale item that with a description and an image (See Figure 6B).

20. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Computer Networking art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of the Barnes-Kaddeche combination

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regarding a system for purchasing with the teachings of Hess regarding the description of an item because a description and an image provide an ideal way for a browser to show an item.

21. Claims 9 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 5,970,475 to Barnes et al. in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication Number 2003/0036949 by Kaddeche et al in further view of U.S. Patent Number 6,636,863 to Friesen.

22. As to claim 9, the Barnes-Kaddeche combination teaches the system of claim 10, however the Barnes-Kaddeche combination does not explicitly teach a database storing a list of items pre-selected by the user to be used at a later time to create a requisition.

Friesen teaches database storing a list of items pre-selected by the user to be used at a later time to create a requisition (col. 5, line 23-col. 6, line 3).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Computer Networking art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of the Barnes-Kaddeche combination regarding a system for purchasing with the teachings of Friesen regarding storing a list of pre-selected items because storing a list allows for greater flexibility for the client (Friesen, col. 3, line 52-col. 4, line 35).

23. As to claim 21, it features the same limitations as claim 9 and is rejected for the same reasons as claim 9.

24. Claims 10, 14, 17, 18, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 5,970,475 to Barnes et al. in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication Number 2003/0036949 by Kaddeche et al in further view of U.S. Patent Number 5,987,423 to Arnold et al..

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25. As to claim 10, the Barnes-Kaddeche combination teaches the system of claim 1, however the Barnes-Kaddeche combination does not explicitly teach a requisition database containing information about a previously generated requisition.

Arnold teaches a requisition database containing information about previously generated requisitions (col. 18, lines 4-22).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Computer Networking art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of the Barnes-Kaddeche combination regarding a system for purchasing with the teachings of Arnold regarding the storage of previously generated requisitions because previously generated requisitions could be useful for creating new requisitions (Arnold, col. 18, lines 4-22).

26. As to claim 14, the Barnes-Kaddeche combination teaches the system of claim 1, however the Barnes-Kaddeche combination does not explicitly teach retrieving information previously stored for a user.

Arnold teaches retrieving information previously stored for a user (col. 18, lines 4-22).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Computer Networking art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of the Barnes-Kaddeche combination regarding a system for purchasing with the teachings of Arnold regarding retrieving information previously stored for a user because previously stored information could be useful for creating new requisitions (Arnold, col. 18, lines 4-22).

27. As to claim 17, Arnold teaches retrieving previously stored information associated with each user (col. 18, lines 4-22).

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28. As to claim 18, Arnold teaches retrieving previously stored information about user selectable items (col. 18, lines 4-22).

29. As to claim 22, it features the same limitations as claim 10 and is rejected for the same reasons as claim 10.

30. Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 5,970,475 to Barnes et al. in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication Number 2003/0036949 by Kaddeche et al in further view of U.S. Patent Number 5,987,423 to Arnold et al. and U.S. Patent Number 6,415,320 to Hess et al.

31. As to claim 19, it features the same limitations as claim 7 and is rejected for the same reasons as claim 7.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas B. Blair whose telephone number is (571) 272-3893. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00am-5:30pm.

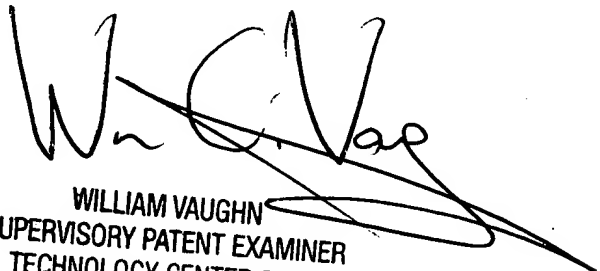
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Caldwell can be reached on (571) 272-3868. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Douglas Blair

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